

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph located on page 6, line 21 - page 7, line 11 as follows:

The apparatus for fluorescence observation comprises an excitation filter which transmits only the exciting light having a specific wavelength out of illumination light, and an absorption filter which blocks the exciting light, and transmits only the fluorescence generated from the specimen ~~when irradiated with the exciting light is irradiated to the specimen~~, wherein the excitation filter and the absorption filter are composed so as to have such characteristics that ~~these have the same half-value wavelength at a long-wavelength side of the excitation filter, and an interval between a half-value wavelength at the long-wavelength side of for which the excitation filter having has transmittance of 0.1% on the long-wavelength side and a half-value wavelength at the short-wavelength side of the excitation filter on the long-wavelength side is in a width between 0.1 to 5.9 nm, and an interval between a wavelength at the short-wavelength side of for which the absorption filter having has transmittance of 0.1% on the short-wavelength side and a half-value wavelength at the short-wavelength side of the absorption filter on the short-wavelength side is in a width between 0.1 to 5.9 nm, and an interval between a the half-value wavelength at the long-wavelength side of the excitation filter having transmittance 80% on the long-wavelength side and a wavelength at the long-wavelength side of for which the excitation filter has transmittance of 80% on the long-wavelength side is 5.9 nm or less, and an interval between a the half-value wavelength at the short-wavelength side of the absorption filter on the short-wavelength side and a wavelength at the short-wavelength side of for which the absorption filter having has transmittance of 80% on the short-wavelength side is 5.9 nm or less.~~